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BEES DISTRIBUTE POLLEN

They are of Great Advantage in Fertilizing Fruit and Cereal Blossoms.

The honey-bee as a pollen-distributor is perhaps of greater value to this country than the crop of honey produced. It has of late years occurred to scientists that the honey-bee is of more benefit for distributing pollen than all other sources combined. That we are largely indebted to the honey-bee for both quantity and quality of our fine fruits there is but little doubt. Not only fruits, but vegetables and cereals commonly grown on the farm.

Bees are not the only insects that are valuable in pollenizing flowers, but if we note very closely we will find that only on a very small scale compared with the honey-bees do other insects accomplish much of this work. The honey-bee is a general pollen-gatherer wherever pollen is to be found, and thus works an extensive territory. Bees thoroughly canvass several miles in diameter in search of both pollen and honey, and are always pollen-distributors whether they are engaged in gathering honey or pollen.

Who has not seen the cornfields, with their heavy laden tassels of pollen swarming with honey-bees? Also the clover fields, the buckwheat fields, the orchards, the vegetable fields, the strawberry fields, and almost every wild flower that produces either fruit or seed is visited by the busy bees, perhaps every hour in the day, thus distributing pollen from flower to flower, industriously performing the work that Nature intended them to do.

Fruit-growers of the present have awakened to the fact that the honey-bee is their best friend, and that bees and fruit growing must be closely combined. So it is all along the line of this immense field of labor depending upon the honey-bee principally for successful returns. Who could not be a friend to the honey-bee, one of Nature's gifts to man? That there are not enough bees to supply thoroughly this want there is little doubt; many neighborhoods have but a few colonies of bees. In support of this I would refer you to the State of California, which is the most extensive bee-keeping State in the Union, and also the same in the production of fruit.—National Rural.

A GOOD USE FOR MONEY

After Doing its Work for Irrigation to be Returned to Government.

F. H. Newell, of the United States geological survey, in charge of the reclamation service in the arid west, in a recent paper in the National Geographic Magazine, gives some interesting data of the work.

The reclamation fund now amounts to about \$15,000,000 and is increasing rapidly. The fund is accumulated under the provisions of the reclamation law, which set apart the proceeds from the sale of public lands in thirteen western States and three Territories for the construction of irrigation works.

The land sales in 1901 started the fund with \$3,000,000; in 1902 the sum of \$4,000,000 was added, and 1903 about \$8,000,000. The

more irrigation works are built the more public lands within reach of the water supply will become marketable, and thus the progress of the work will help to swell the fund.

As the water is supplied the owners of the land benefited will pay for what they use and will ultimately pay for the entire cost of improvement. All the money they pay will be turned back into the fund, and thus will be used over and over again for the building of more storage reservoirs.

When finally the limit of water attainable has been reached and it is not practicable to irrigate more land the entire fund will be turned into the general treasury.

The work of surveying the western streams to ascertain the amount of water supply and how the land may be reclaimed by irrigation has been in progress since 1888 and is still going on. The work of building the storage reservoirs has only just begun in Nevada and Arizona.

GIRL OWNS MANY HORSES

The Horse Queen of Idaho Is a Young Woman of Nerve and Business Ability.

Miss Kitty C. Wilkins, a well-known horse raiser of Bruneau, Idaho, believes in the horse. She has been reared in a way that makes her understand him, says a local report. She has a horse ranch all her own. It is not a small ranch. There are thousands of acres under fence and there is an almost unlimited range around it. After closing a contract in Kansas City for 3,000 head of horses she still has nearly 6,000 on the range.

In her little principality in Idaho she is queen. She rides and drives alone and unattended all over the great northwestern expanse. "Sometimes I travel as much as 60 miles without seeing a house or sighting a human being," said she, "but I am never afraid. I carry a six-shooter, but of course I have never had the slightest reason for even thinking of using it."

All her employees worship Miss Wilkins, and the swells of the cities, when she visits New York, Chicago, Denver, or any other metropolis of the land, are delighted with the honor of her company, says the Denver Post. She has preserved all the delicacy and refinement that belongs to the boudoir and the drawing room, and has yet made a magnificent success of horse ranching.

CIGAR MAKERS APPEAL

Want Congress to Admit Philippine Tobacco Free of Duty.

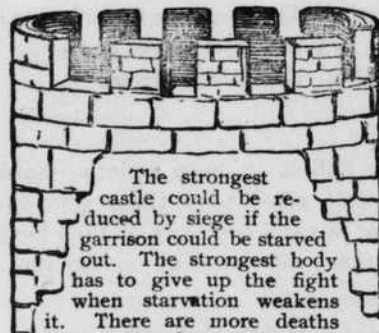
Washington.—Sect. Taft has received the following cablegram from Pardo de Tavera of Manila: "I am requested to send the following, signed by seven presidents of cigar guilds: The laborers in the cigar factories of Manila congratulate you on assuming your new office, and earnestly ask your influential aid in urging legislation during this session of Congress for the free entry into the United States of Philippine manufactured tobacco, their only salvation. This is of great interest to thousands of cigarmakers who are suffering misery through the decadence of the tobacco industry, and appeal to the Congress of the United States for its help and pro-

tection. All I can say in furtherance of this petition would be little in view of the great importance of the subject matter."

Taft replied that he would do all he could to secure action by Congress for the purpose of getting what they asked.

Wouldn't Have Worked Him.

A small Athens boy was called in to view his new born baby brother. He looked it over with dissatisfaction and finally asked: "Mamma, where did this thing come from?" "An angel brought it in, Jimmie." "Huh, was you awake when he come?" "Certainly, Jimmie." "Well, then, mamma, all I've got to say is that you're dead easy. I'd like to see any old angel put off such a look-in' thing as that on me. I s'pose we're stuck unless I kin work Johnny — and trade it sight unseen for one of his spotted pups."



The strongest castle could be reduced by siege if the garrison could be starved out. The strongest body has to give up the fight when starvation weakens it. There are more deaths from starvation than the world dreams of. When the stomach is diseased and the food eaten is not digested and assimilated, then the strength of the body begins to fail because of lack of nutrition, and the weak body falls an easy victim to the microbes of disease.

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